Pending schemes of Chhattisgarh

1762. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of the schemes submitted by Chhattisgarh pending with Centre; and

(b) the disposal details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development receives proposals from the District Rural Development Agencies and State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, including Chhattisgarh for Central assistance as per the programme guidelines. These proposals are examined by the concerned Programme Divisions and if found qualified proposals are sanctioned and those proposals which require modifications etc. are immediately returned to the States for necessary action.

Dispensing population criteria under PMGSY

1763. SHRI SAMAN PATHAYK: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to dispense with the population criteria for the hilly and inaccessible area under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of proposals with the Government to join the hilly remote areas of Darjeeling with the main highway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) envisages providing connectivity by way of an all-weather road to all unconnected habitations with a population of 500 persons and above in plain areas and 250 persons and above in hill States, the tribal and the desert areas. Presently, there is no proposal to dispense with the population criteria.

(c) There is no proposal (new connectivity) pending with the Ministry of Rural Development to join the hilly and remote areas of Darjeeling district with the main highway.

PMGSY proposals submitted by A.P. Government

1764. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh in consultation with financial institutions has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for leveraging the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) to a tune of Rs. 900 crores in the State and have submitted project proposals worth Rs. 500 crores to the Centre;

(b) if so, the response of the Government to the above said proposals and the status report thereon;

(c) whether the Union Government is considering amending the Direct Cess Act to enable the National Rural Roads Development Agency to leverage PMGSY; and

(d) if so, the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh had proposed for leveraging its annual allocation under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) but no detailed project proposal for leveraging Rs. 900 crore was received. Since inception of PMGSY, project proposals for a value of Rs. 2189.94 crore have been approved for the State of Andhra Pradesh. Funds for these projects are being released out of normal channels of funding under PMGSY.

(c) and (d) The Central Road Fund (Amendment) Act, 2007, an Act further to amend the Central Road Fund Act, 2000, has been published on 4.6.2007 in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 1, as Act No. 28 of 2007. After the said amendment, a Memorandum of Agreement among Government of India (Ministry of Rural Development), National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has been signed on 27th September, 2007. NABARD has agreed to provide a loan of Rs. 16,000 crore through a separate window under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for funding Rural Roads component of Bharat Nirman. As on November 30, 2007, a sum of Rs. 1001.90 crore has already been drawn and released to States (including Rs. 120 crore to Andhra Pradesh) from this fund. Presently, the Ministry of Rural Development has no proposal to further amend the aforesaid Act.

Worksite facilities under NREGA

1765. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether worksite facilities under NREGA such as shade (shelter), first aid, creche are available and if so, the number of worksite (in percentage), having such facilities; and

(b) whether the mandatory social audit under NREGA is conducted by Gram Sabhas and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) Para 27 of schedule II of NREG Act, 2005 provides that worksite facilities such as safe drinking water, shade for children and periods of rest and first-aid box with adequate material for emergency treatment shall be provided at the work site. The facilities are generally provided at work sites as per the requirements.

(b) Yes, Sir. Section 17(2) of NREG Act provides that the Gram Sabha shall conduct regular social audit of all the projects taken up with the Gram Panchayat.